

Other related services provided by the Outpatient Department

Allergy & Immunology Clinic

- Specialist consultation
- Skin prick testing

*Management of AEFI in adults

Adults are able to be referred to an appropriate specialist according to the particular type of adverse event experienced or concerned about.



Funded by NSW Health

More information

Clinic Location

Outpatients Department
Level 2 (entry level)
Next to Starbucks Café

Children's Hospital at Westmead
Cnr Hawkesbury Rd & Hainsworth St
Westmead 2154

Clinic Times

Every Friday morning
9am – 12pm

Consultants

Professor Peter McIntyre
Dr Nicholas Wood
Dr Melanie Wong
Dr Miriam Codarini

Contact Details

Kath Cannings
Immunisation Adverse Events
Clinical Nurse Consultant
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Immunisation Adverse Events Clinic

Specialising in the assessment and management of children, adolescents and adults* who are at risk of or have experienced an adverse event following an immunisation.

the children's hospital at Westmead

What is an Adverse Event Following Immunisation (AEFI)?

The National Health & Medical Research Council (2008) define an AEFI as "... an *unwanted or unexpected* event occurring after the administration of vaccine(s). Such an event may be caused by the vaccine(s) or may occur by chance after vaccination (ie. it would have occurred regardless of vaccination)."

The Children's Hospital at Westmead in partnership with the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance now has over 15 years of experience in the management and assessment of children and adolescents who have either experienced an AEFI or are at increased risk of developing an AEFI because of an underlying medical condition.

The clinic is staffed by experienced doctors and nurses whose speciality is immunisation.

The setting of the clinic within the hospital allows us to offer vaccination under close supervision on a number of different levels:

1. Outpatient Department
2. Day stay ward
3. Inpatient stay

What does the clinic provide?

- Assessment and management of a child or adolescent who has experienced an AEFI
- In depth discussion with parents who have concerns about vaccines, side effects and possible adverse events
- Administration of vaccines under close supervision, **if appropriate**
- Personalised follow up by telephone call after vaccination
- Outline of options for future vaccination schedule (may differ from the standard schedule depending on the nature of the AEFI)

What happens at the clinic?

- You and your child will see a doctor who specialises in immunisation
- The doctor will examine your child, take the medical history, discuss your concerns and make a plan with you for future vaccinations **if appropriate**
- Your child may be vaccinated on the day after the consultation by the specialist nurse, may be asked to return at a later date, or may need to be admitted to hospital for closer supervision

Do I have to pay to attend the clinic?

- No. Attendance at the clinic is free for Medicare card holders

How do I make an appointment?

- Obtain a referral letter from your local doctor
- Contact Kath Cannings, Immunisation Adverse Events Clinical Nurse Consultant (details overleaf)

What should I bring to the appointment

- The referral from your local doctor
- Your child's Medicare card
- Your child's Personal Health Record ("Blue Book")

